

PLAYBOY'S BOOK OF LINGERIE

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DELIGHT

GETTING
DOWN TO
THE BASICS



PLAYBOY'S BOOK OF LINGERIE

PLAYBOY PRESS



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Think of this as a course. One in which we will study a body of knowledge. What metaphysics is to philosophy, lingerie is to fashion. It's a study of underlying principles, some of which show through. It's the study of an ethereal but essential substance; an essence, a bare essence; a hard look at hardly-anything-there. Think of this as its textbook. In it, we will explore the theory and practice of lingerie. We will examine its origin, its history, its allure. We will study its troubled, tumultuous past, its brave and promising future. We will sit in as lingerie struggles to lead an ordinary life; we will share its hopes, its dreams; we will acquire a feel for its material. We will use as our models some of the finest physical specimens to be found, many of them Playmates from the pages of PLAYBOY magazine. Through the use of highly sophisticated equipment and trained technicians, we will be able to show you for the first time this human plumage at its most brazen and provocative. We will explore its hooks and fasteners, its nooks and crannies. We will watch it form and reveal the female landscape. We will wrestle with its slippery and elusive sociopolitical issues. We will not rest until we have exposed lingerie for what it really is: one of the things that makes life worth living.



Lingerie is one of the things that go well with brushing one's hair. Susan Smith finds it to be a sure cure for feeling out of sorts. Lingerie is something you wear when you want to be thought of as straightforward. It's more than just comfortable; it's that little something extra that makes everything else seem to be perfectly in place.









Lingerie is one of the few things you can wear while you do just about anything: Patti McGuire (left) in self-reflection; Jeana Tomasino (above) appreciating the giant strides in wide-screen TV; Cathy St. George (below) telephoning friends.



The genius who first thought of combining the idea *lingerie* with the idea *pleats* deserves much more than he got. He understood that lingerie implies movement, and movement of a rapid and special nature. Pleats, as an engineering option, provide for the expression of whimsy and allow otherwise sensible people to be expansive with their under-clothing. Pleats allow one to be off-the-shoulder, informal. You can shrug things off, as Debra Jo Fondren does here.





It is only in lingerie that you can be properly attired while reclining across a piano. Shannon Tweed demonstrates how lingerie will never mar the finish. It enhances musical virtuosity and inspires you to play just the right notes.





Airy silk or earthy cotton—both
caress Candy Loving's body lovingly.





One of the fun things about lingerie is that you can be half in or half out of it. Either half in or half out, depending on your state of mind, are Heidi Sorenson (below), Marine Jetty (top right), Candy Loving (bottom right) and homey Daina House (opposite).









Some lingerie is like a fog—coming in on little cat feet, shrugging its vaporous shoulders and enveloping everything in a cool mist. Or it can be sturdy in the same way we call a spider web sturdy. Monique St. Pierre's wardrobe contains both.

Even dramatic actresses of the caliber of Bernadette Peters will dress themselves in lingerie if asked in a polite way. That's what we did and she vamped her way into our hearts and points south. Her baby-smooth skin made for a fine contrast with the adult-smooth, man-made fabrics. Some women know instinctively what works.







Bernadette reminds us of a dark page in lingerie's past, when the lumbering mammals of the sea—whales—were hunted for infrastructure, for pinched waists and explosive bosoms.





Getting all dressed up, even when you have no place to go, is great fun if you use the right accessories. Ann Cole has chosen a simple, classic strand of pearls.









Adjustments are necessary occasionally to get the proper fit in a piece of lingerie. It may be a bit early in the morning for Cyndi Russell (above and below). Her chemise seems a little short, but she won't know until she gets it on. Wide-awake Janet Quist (left) struggles to get all the pieces together for a picture-perfect fit.





Sheila Mullen snacks (above left), Patricia Farinelli pouts (above right), Martha Thomsen writes (below) and Kathy and Kim Kennéc greet the morning with coffee. This demonstrates something of the practical nature of lingerie.





Anything can be done in lingerie. Sitting, bending, standing or reclining are all comfortable positions in this versatile attire. To show how it's done: this page, Ursula Buchfellner (below) and Marlene Janssen (top and bottom); opposite page, Gina Goldberg (top), Cathy St. George (bottom left) and Rhonda Smith (bottom right).





Some lingerie goes extremely well with the entire spectrum of contemporary home furnishings. Women with modern tastes, like our very up-to-date Anne-Marie Fox, can relax and try new variations on an old theme without fear of disrupting the careful work interior decorators have charged them so dearly for.







Make no mistake. Terri Welles has no trouble making up her mind. She is a woman who usually knows what she wants and knows how to go about making it happen. She likes to be open to new experiences, to try new things. She takes advantage of all the options, trying to find the most pleasing.









Lingerie has inspired much of the research that has gone into the development of miracle fabrics. Textile scientists worked long hours in laboratories to bring us material strong enough to withstand the pressures of being stretched by odd postures and fantastic shapes, like the one at left and above. Notice they take colors well, from brilliant jewel tones to the pastels of Karen Morton's petticoat.



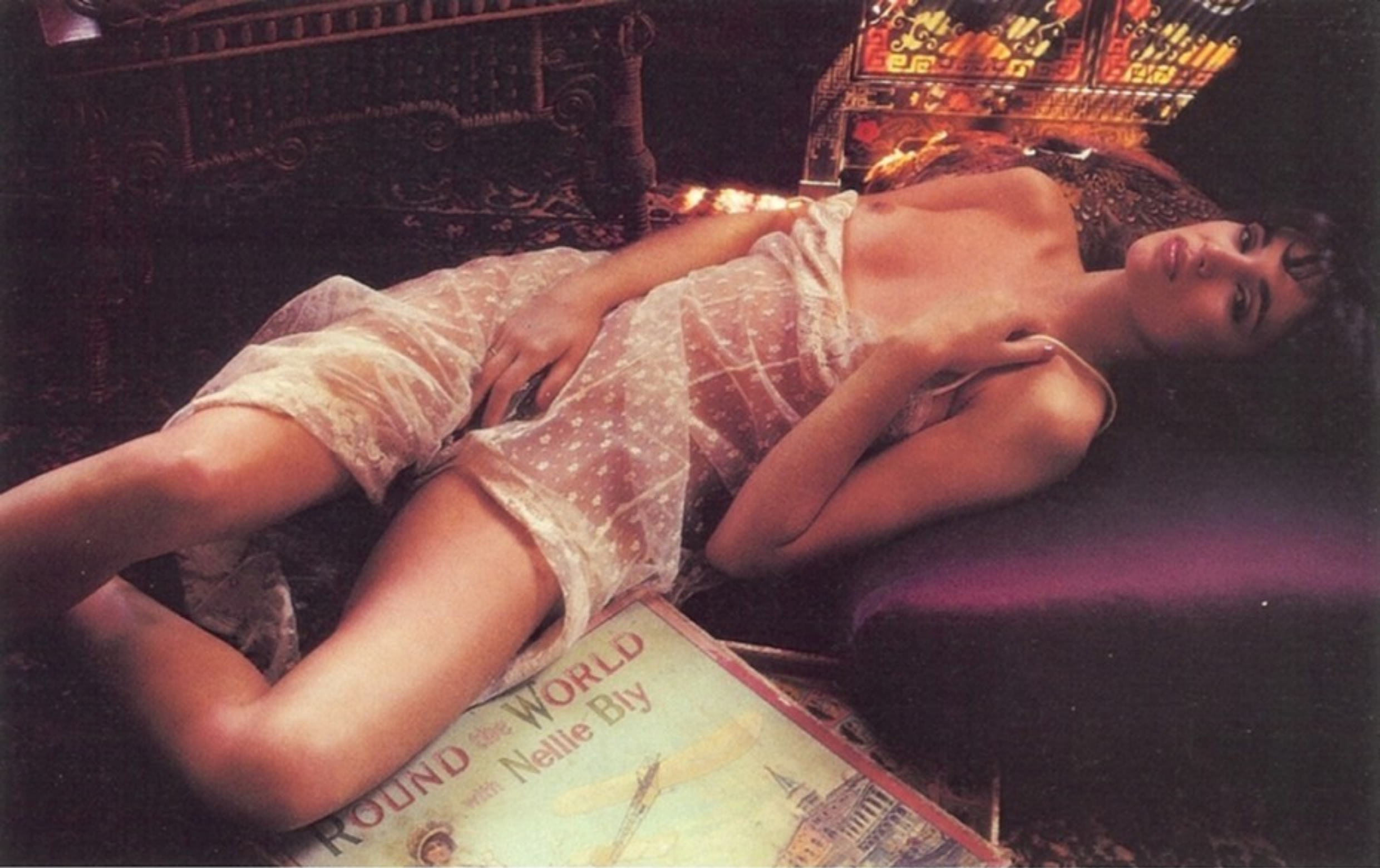


Women wearing lingerie are totally unpredictable. Sometimes they want to be alone. Sometimes they want to be with a friend. Sometimes when they're alone, they wish they were with a friend. Martha Thomsen (above), twins Lynette and Leigh Harris (below) and Sylvie Garant (right) may be expressing all of these moods right now.









There is a special allure to black lingerie. Why all the fuss? It's not as though black underthings fit any better than white underthings. Sylvie Garant (above and below) and Debra Peterson (left) have a very special allure—no mystery there.



Lingerie lends itself to interesting design experiments. It encourages creativity and welcomes variation. Jeannie Alderson shows how a nightie can become a nifty bandeau.





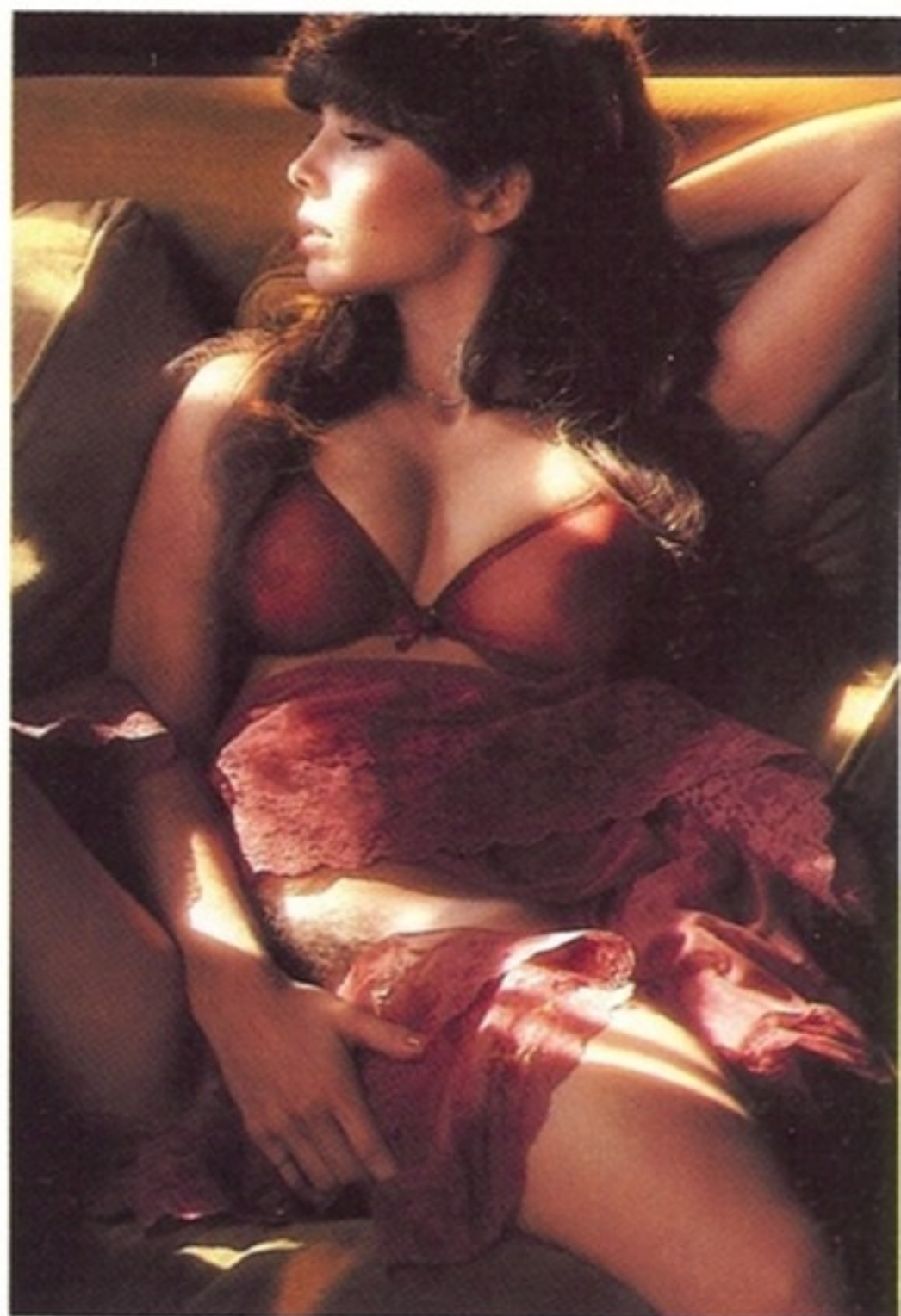


Some women find it especially difficult to wear lingerie. It's all too small. However, those women should not give up, should not deprive themselves of the challenge, the joys, the heart-aches, the substantial personal rewards of lingerie-wearing. Joyce Mandel is a profile in courage.





Lingerie is available in a great variety of styles, from the most innocent-looking to the most devilishly seductive. Left and below, Janis Schmitt models two very different kinds of at-home wear. Right, Denise McConnell shows what the well-dressed girl in the office wears under her tailored suit. Overleaf: Cyndi Russell flounces in a flurry of ruffles.





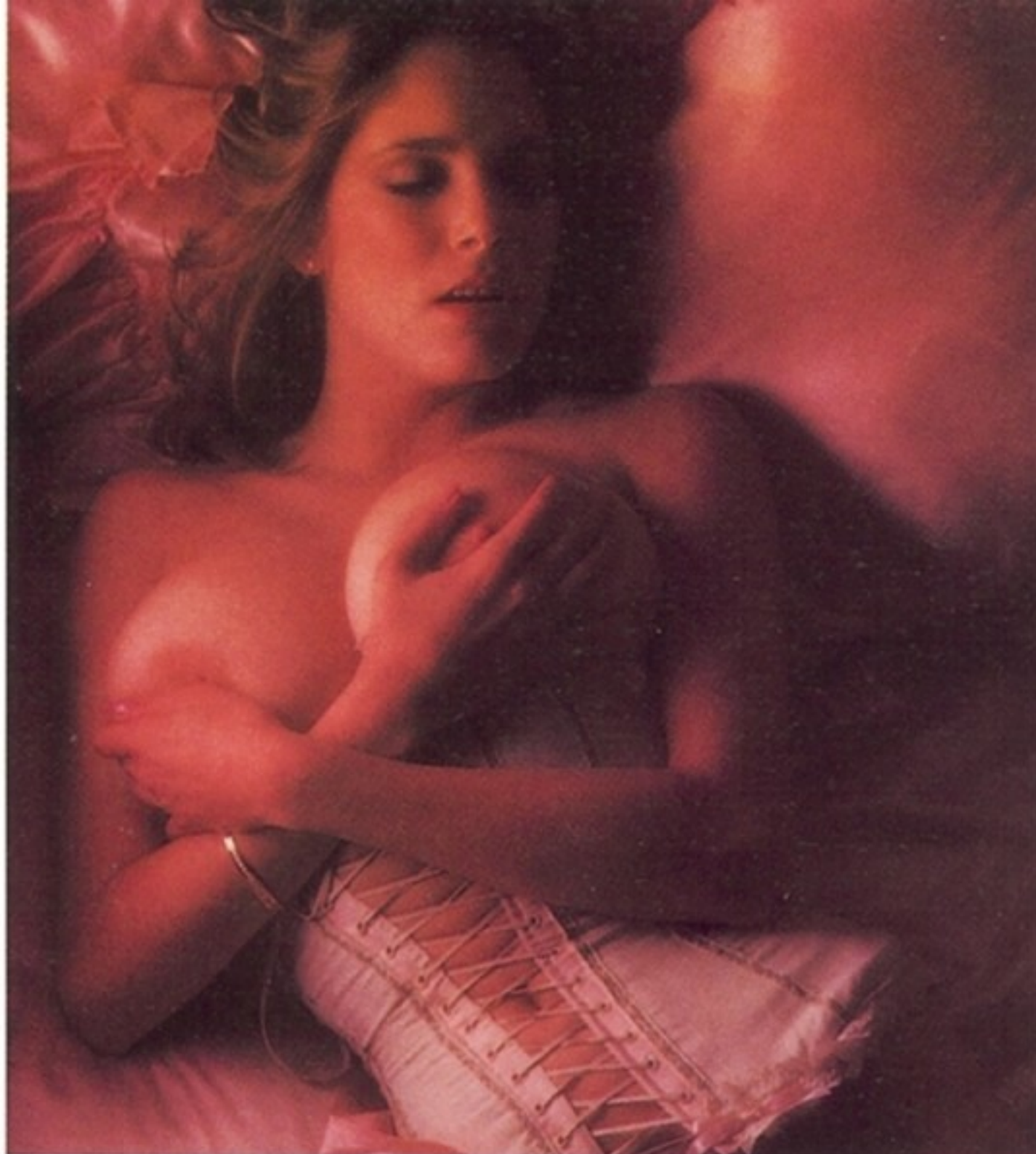




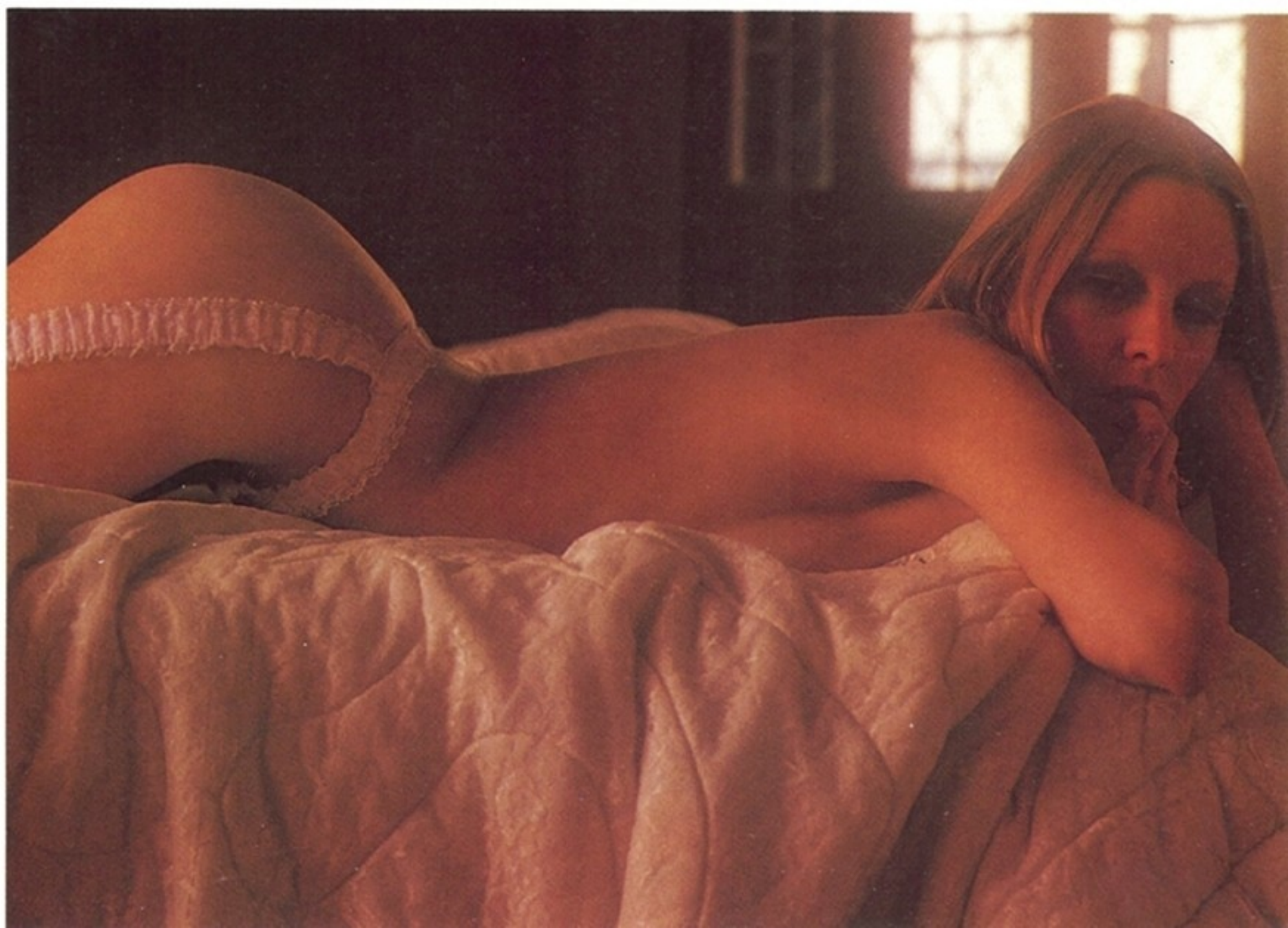
Women feel good about themselves while wearing lingerie. Maybe because it makes them feel extra special, like a triple-layer angel food cake with icing *and* ice cream, all covered with hot fudge. Looking good enough to eat are Susan Silach (right), Gina Goldberg (left) and the double treat below, Nickey Winders (top) and Joan Bennett (bottom).



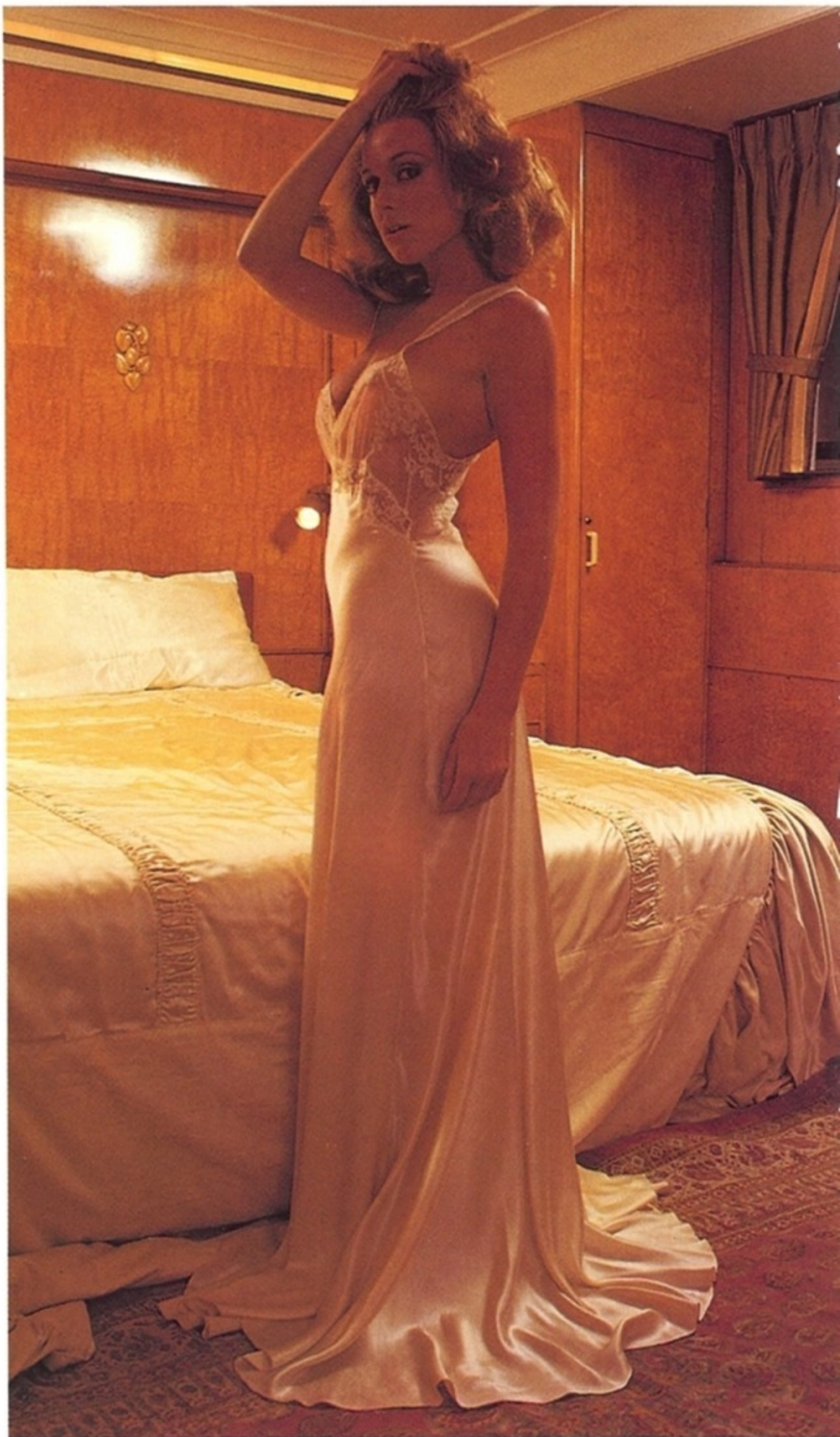




Wonderful dreams happen inside underwear. Lisa Baker, for example (far left), is having a dream of self-discovery. Charlotte Kemp (left) holds on to those last moments of sleep, reluctant to let go of the fantasy. Below, a somnolent Christine Manahan ponders the symbolism of rounded objects.



Something long and silky does more to explicate hip bones and stomach muscles than any other fabric. It says something that cannot be said in tweed. It is absolutely right for the leisure of steamship travel. Pam Zinzer, in her luxurious stateroom, creates a welcome kind of cabin fever. Overleaf: Ann Cole is dressed up in one of those little things that do wonders for a woman's disposition.













Lingerie is a frame rather than a curtain for the body. Lots of people have pretty pictures, but if they're not framed properly, they sort of just hang there. They don't really do the job of enhancing the decor. Dorothy Mays, Cathy St. George and Karen Witter (left, top and bottom, respectively) are modern masterpieces.



Lingerie is not without its sense of humor. Many things that are taken for granted and seem perfectly normal when surrounded by a business suit become absolutely hilarious when they occur within the flimsy confines of lingerie. Deborah Paige (below left) finds all this amusing. Cathy St. George (below right) is reserving judgment. Gay Haupher (right) is fiddling with an entirely different problem.







Across the top of this spread, you find Karen Witter (left) and Pam Bryant (right) showing off the basic area that lingerie has to work with. Below, Debra Jo Fondren shows off her hair and a number of basic styles in the intimate apparel repertory. Overleaf, the extraordinary areas of your basic gorgeous redhead, Susan Silach.











Lingerie is intrinsically exhibitionistic. It likes to be shown off. This quartet aims to please: Sylvie Garant in tap pants (above left); Cathy Larmouth in a camisole (above right); Nancy Cameron in a two-piece ensemble (below); and Rose Marie wearing a teddy (opposite).

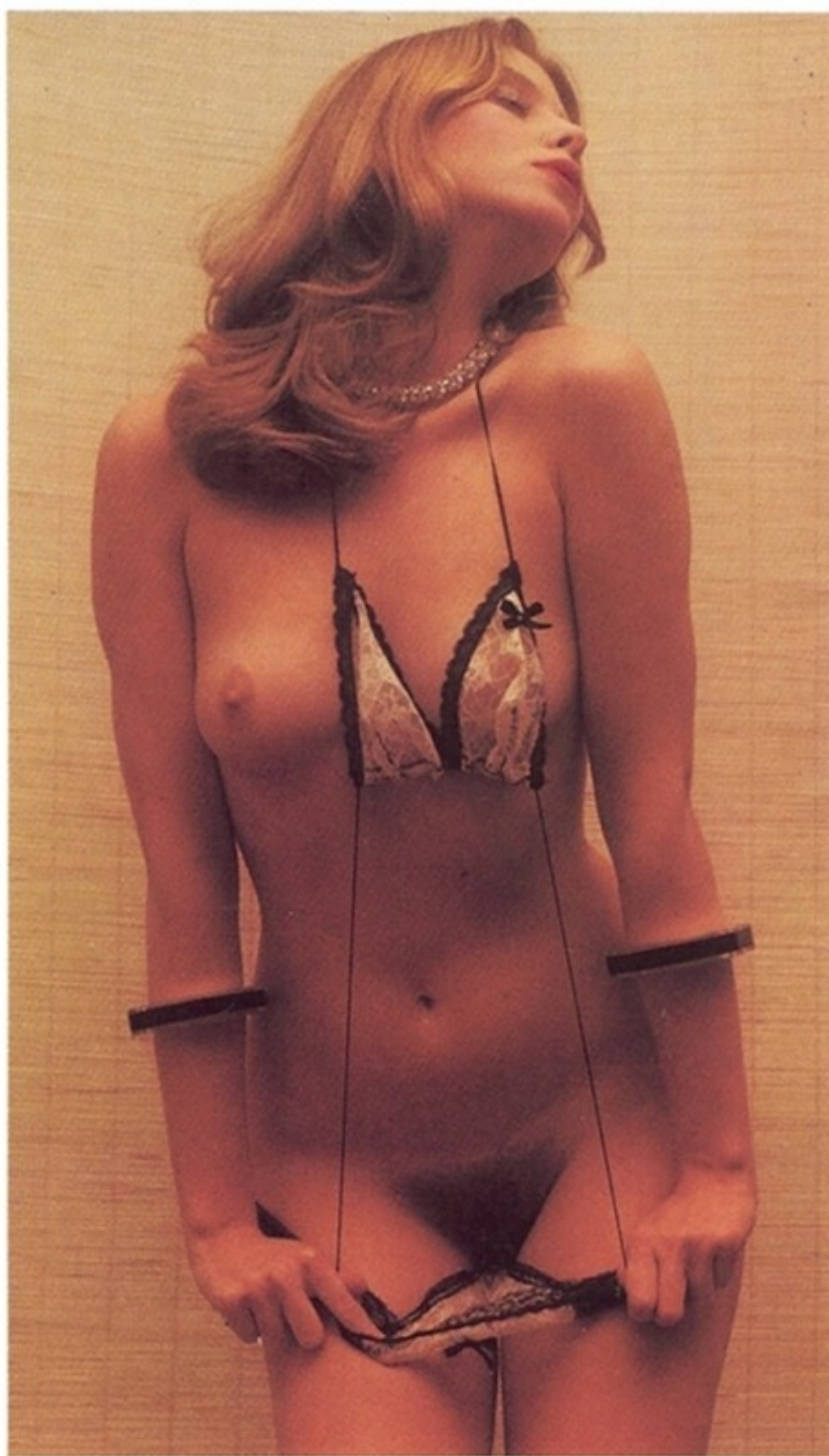


You don't see much of the lace-up corset anymore. Women today simply don't have the time, what with careers, aerobics, grocery shopping and watching their investments. But Charlotte Kemp seems perfectly able to fit everything in.





Elasticity is a special sort of strength. It holds on while giving up. It often becomes the shortest distance between two points. Below left, Kelly Tough gives her panties a gentle tug. Below right, Bebe Buell articulates the straight downward pull—popular among alienated youth and others who have very little free time. Sylvie Garant (right) shows off the cross-your-heart-and-hope-nothing-breaks maneuver.







Women don't seem to mind assuming contorted postures while wearing lingerie. This can be a big plus. Posing is great fun to watch. But you have to make it interesting for the girls, too. They can get bored just lounging around.





Pantyhose have been the subject of many jokes, both benign and racy. At left, Bebe Buell comes to their defense. Below and at bottom, Henriette Allais and Liz Glazowski wear not-so-modern hosiery. Right, bare-legged Suzanne Sheridan.







Shannon Tweed has shed her namesake fabric in favor of something less scratchy. White fur looks like just the thing to ward off chills and drafts. Above, she gets comfortable before settling down to study the heartbeat of the entertainment business.









We should pause here and reflect on the powerful calming effect lingerie has on otherwise high-strung women. Witness the recumbent Rhonda Whitt on the previous spread. Suzanne Sheridan (left) knows the therapeutic value of time by herself. Candace Collins (above) and Gina Goldberg (below) flex and stretch out tense muscles.







Lacy underthings aren't all that keeps a girl together—it takes planning and know-how, a certain kind of physical dexterity. Sheila Mullen (left) and Janet Quist (above) are ladies who handle everything with just the right touch.



Given all the recent strides in sisterly solidarity, it's surprising that women still fight over the smallest things. This tendency threatens to unravel the very fabric of a delicate social structure. Women must learn to pull together.



Monique St. Pierre is a girl who knows how to have a good time. She has a little trouble with champagne corks, however. When a bottle is opened properly, you will hear only a slight pop and there shouldn't be any spillage. On the other hand, if there hadn't been fizz, Monique wouldn't have needed to shed her slip to slip into something dry.







Even girls from the wilds of Texas are knowledgeable about lingerie. Kym Malin is very particular about what she wears. She is thoughtful and thorough, careful to choose just the right color, the right fit. She knows that building on a solid foundation is important to starting each day well and generally feeling good about yourself.





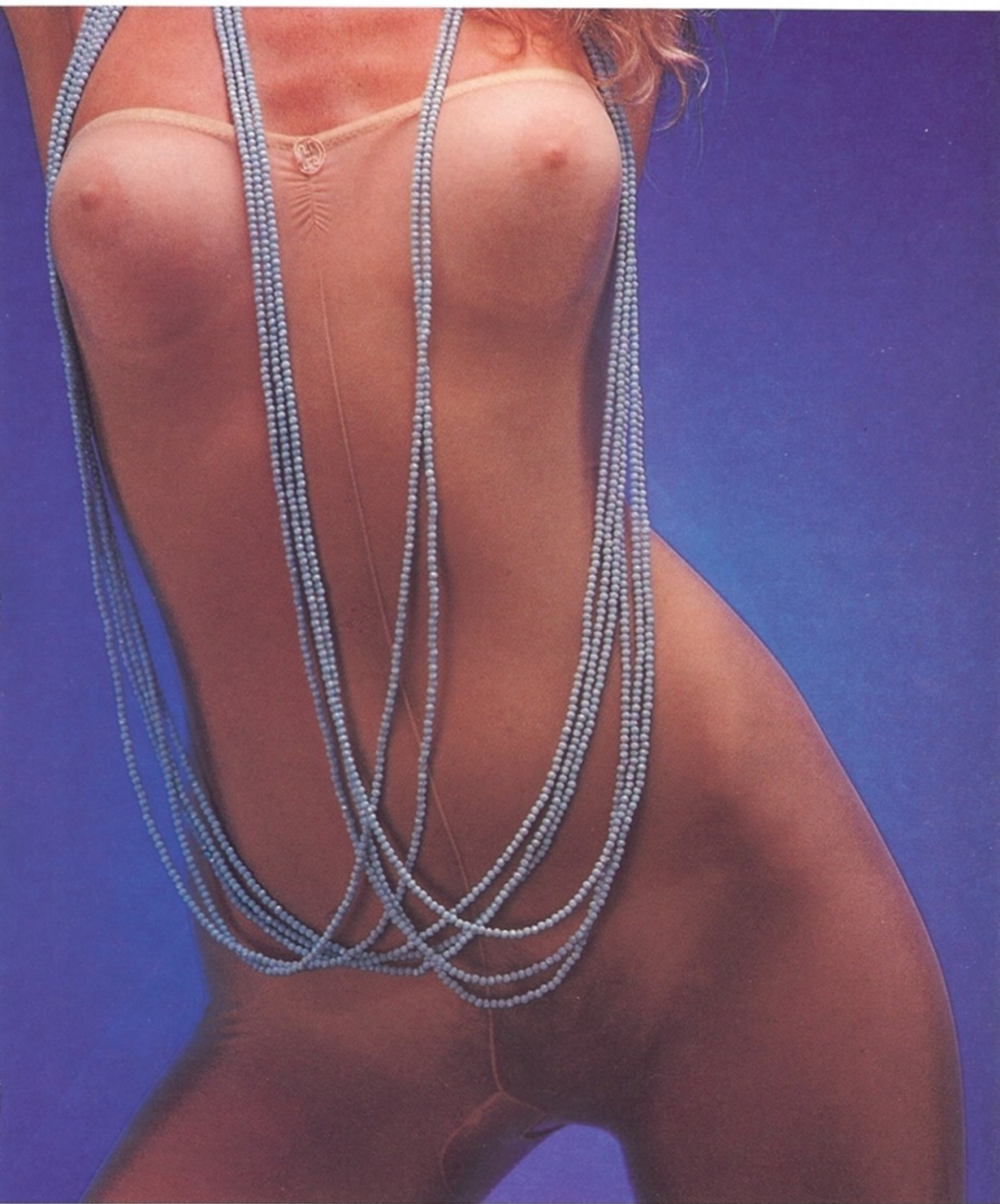




Any fashion's success depends on the sympathetic attitude the designer adopts toward the material he undertakes to shape. Gina Goldberg's garment is triumphant.



The origin of the body stocking is shrouded in the gauzy maze of textile legend and lore. One rumor has it that it was discovered when someone named Sally Sue purchased pantyhose a couple of sizes too large. When her friends at the local exercise salon got a glimpse of Sally Sue's all-in-one, they rushed out to buy extra-large pantyhose. Soon, news of this convenient piece of apparel spread across the country. We don't believe that story. We think stocking manufacturers began looking up. They saw waistlines and invented pantyhose. Then they looked higher.







We will now examine the giddy history of lingerie. Here, and on the next few pages, you will see what our forefathers saw—if they were very good. Notice that flimsy headgear was an integral part of nighttime fashion in days gone by. Despite years of study, scholars have not come up with any sensible reason for this phenomenon.





Women of the last century were as finicky about their underthings as women are today. But there was a lot more of it then. Now, a built-in stretch in the fabric keeps the garments in place; back then, little hooks and tiny buttons tried to do the job. As we see here, thank goodness, they didn't always work very well.









Older lingerie had really superb craftsmanship. The design and manufacture of these items was done with great care and feeling for the subject. Even so, the hoop skirt made sitting down a hazardous exercise, likely to result in impropriety.





Some of the early styles in lingerie are still around and still look good to us. Slinky satin is eternally sexy. Waist cinchers point out the obvious. But no one misses the toggery you'll see overleaf. The yards of fabric and lacing made this stuff as hard to get out of as it was to put on.













It is hard to explain the allure of lingerie. At left is your basic white garter belt. Basic and utilitarian, executed in an intricate pattern and adorned with a pair of bows. None of that accounts for why we are drawn to the photo. Above, Liz Glazowski seems on the verge of revealing an innermost secret. Overleaf: Janis Schmitt makes everything apparent.







Sisters Marge and Judy Ekhardt (above) give each other a helping hand. Cathy St. George (below) tries to find the other stocking. Dorothy Mays (right) in a sheer delight.







Marianne Gravatte is the answer to several dreams all at once. She personifies the woman who was made to prove the dizzying heights to which lingerie could aspire. Marianne understands the aesthetics *and* mechanics of frilly and transparent things. She is completely at home with the intricacies of underwear. And she is proud of her ability to solve life's complex puzzles with a minimum of effort. She has millions of admirers.



Kim McArthur has figured a lot in this book. Her figure is one of the reasons she can be such a persuasive spokesperson for the healthy future lingerie will enjoy. Girls such as Kim point the way. Lingerie's sense of intimate adventure is complemented to perfection by her fresh approach and her uncomplicated enthusiasm.







**THE ULTIMATE
IN INTIMATE APPAREL**

**PLAYBOY'S BOOK OF
LINGERIE**



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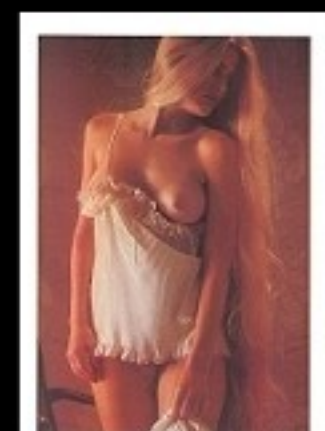
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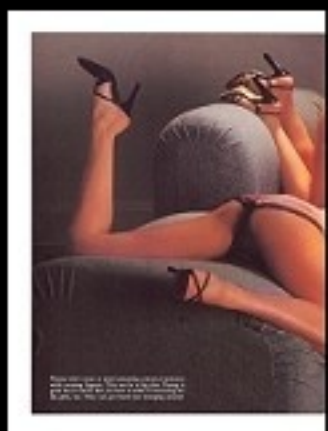
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